(c) and (d) The Transplantation of Human Organs Act, 1994 has come into force with effect from 4-2-1995 in the States of Goa, Himachal Pradesh and Maharashtra and all the Union Territories. The other States have been requested to adopt the above men tiond Act. It is now for the concerned States to take further appropriate action in this regard. The State Government of Karnataka has since adopted this Act after the State Governments of West Bengal and Tamil Nadu are going to adopt this Act shortly. The State Government of Andhra Pradesh have promulgated • air Ordinance in this behalf vide Ordinance No. 7 of 1995.

Harmful toothpastes

3883. SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR BIRLA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news-item cap tioned "Toothpastes to bear warning for kids", as reported in the Hindus tan Times dated the 17th February, 1995;

(b) if so, whether the toothpastes containing flourides are harmful for children;

(c) whether any statutory warning on those toothpastes would be enforced; and

(d) if so, by when?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. C SILVERA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Toothpastes containing excess o5 fluoride, when used continuously may be harmful.

(c) and (d)-The-Govemment have . initiated steps to prohibit use of fluoride — toothpaste by children below seven years of age. The stautory warning when finalised in consulta-tion with. Dental Health- Expents shall beenforced by the Government. The Govt, has natofied that .fluoadtte-toothpaste shall not contain fluoride-more than 1000 ppm.

Final Report of the Technical Advisory Committee on plauge

3884. SHRI SURESH PACHOURI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to refer to the answer to Unstarred Question 672 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 16th March. 1995 and state;

(a) whether the final Report of the Technical Advisory Committee constituted to determine the factors responsible 'for the out-break of plauge has now been received; and

(b) if so. the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. C SILVERA): (a) and (b) The report is expected to be submitted by 31.7.1995.

Cornea grafting facilities in the country

3885. SHRI SURESH PACHOURI: Will the PRIME MINISTER -be pleased to state:

(a) what are the neasures.envisaged under the National Blindness Control Programme;

(b) whether Cornea ..grafting has been accepted as a method for restoring sight for the blind;

(c) what is the number of eye banks in the cotratry/State-wise where cornea grafting facilities are availa-ble; and

(d) whether Government *kms;*for mulated any action plan to promote eye donation : came and 'enlist sup port of nongovernmental Vohmtary organisations for this purpose?

THE. MINISTER OF STATE IN THE, MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY "WELFARE (DR. C. SILVER): (a) The various measures taken to control blindness under National programme for Control of Ehindness "VNPCB) *inter-alia* include

(i) Strengthening of Opithalmic infrastructure,

(ii). Expanding the coyerge to luial.and tribal.areas,

(iii) Training of Ophihalmic oian-pewrer,

(iv) Establishment or District Blindness Control Societies.

(v) Creating awareness about the eye' are in the masses and

(vi) Increasing financial Outlays.

(b) Yes, Sir. It can be used only in the case of corneally blind persons.

(c) A statement showing the details of Eye .Banks where Cornea .grafting facilities are available is enclosed. *(See* below).

(d) Under the programme, one lime non-recurrinc assistance of Rs. 1.75 lakhs and recurring assistance of 0.25 lakhs is admissible for the development and maintenance of-eye "banks in the Voluntary Sectors. Since 1986. a National Fortnight on'Eye Donation is being observed every year from 25th Aug. to 8th Sept. to generate awareness about Eye Donation.

Statement

Statewise, details of Eye Banks in the cointrv where cornea grafting faHtitiet are csraiiahle

S. No.	Name of State/UT	No. of Cornea Grafting Centres
1	2	3
1	Andhra Pradesh . .	1
2	Assam	1
3	Bihar	1
4	Chandigarh . . .	1
5	Delhi	3
6	Gujarat	3
7	Haryana	3
8	Karnataka . . .	3
9	Kerala	2
10	Madhya Pradesh . .	2
11	Maharashtra . . .	8
12	Punjab . .	3
13	Rajasthan . . .	3
14	Tamil Nadu . . .	5
15	Uttar Pradesh . . .	3
16	West Bengal . . .	1
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News item captioned Aureedic cirs for AIDS''

3886. SHRI .RAMDAS AGARWAL Will the PRIME MINISTER,be pleased to- state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to a news-item published in the Hindustan Times dated the 10th April, *1*995 captioned 'Ayurvedic cure for AIDS" successfully tried and found aiscful on nearly 45 HIV Positive patients in the U.S. recently-
.

(b) if so, whether any scientific ayaluation/study of the herbal compound and the way it works on the AIDS virus is proposed to be under-taken by Government of India in collaboration with a California based Physician, Dr. George Essay after Maaking full research and consultation with-Mr. F. A. Majeed, the Indian Herbalist; and